

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image reading device comprising:
an original mounting portion on which an original having an image region is placed;
an original reading unit movable in a reading direction for reading the image region,
the image region having an image region length in the reading direction;
a movement control unit controlling the original reading unit to provide an
acceleration region where the original reading unit accelerates from a halted state to a moving
velocity, a constant-velocity region where the original reading unit maintains the moving
velocity, and a deceleration region where the original reading unit decelerates from the
moving velocity to the halted state, the original reading unit reading the image region at least
in the constant-velocity region, the original reading unit starting to decelerate at a deceleration
start position that is positioned between the constant-velocity region and the deceleration
region;
a region-length acquisition unit acquiring the image region length;
a velocity setting unit setting the moving velocity of the original reading unit based on
a specified image reading mode; and
a deceleration-start-position setting unit setting the deceleration start position based on
the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit;
wherein the deceleration-start-position setting unit includes a velocity comparison unit
comparing the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit with a reference velocity,
thereby obtaining a comparison result; and
wherein, if the velocity comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the
moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit is greater than the reference velocity, the

deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to one of a position within the image region and a position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction, depending on the image region length and the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 2, wherein, if the velocity comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit is less than or equal to the reference velocity, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction, regardless of the image region length.

4. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the original reading unit includes a storage unit storing an absolute length and a required deceleration distance, the absolute length being a length from a reading start position at which the original reading unit starts reading of the original to an absolute halt position, the required deceleration distance being a distance that is required for the original reading unit to decelerate from the moving velocity and reach the halted state;

wherein the deceleration-start-position setting unit further includes:

a required-deceleration-distance acquisition unit acquiring, from the storage unit, the required deceleration distance corresponding to the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit; and

an absolute-length comparison unit comparing the absolute length with a comparison length that is a sum of the image region length and the required deceleration distance, thereby obtaining a comparison result; and

wherein the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to one of a position within the image region and a position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction, depending on the comparison result of the absolute-length comparison unit.

5. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 4, wherein, if the velocity comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit is greater than the reference velocity and the absolute-length comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the absolute length is greater than or equal to the comparison length, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

6. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 4, wherein, if the velocity comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the moving velocity set by the velocity setting unit is greater than the reference velocity and the absolute-length comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the absolute length is less than the comparison length, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region.

7. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 6, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the deceleration start position is a position that is advanced in the reading direction from the reading start position by a length that is obtained by subtracting the required deceleration distance from the absolute length.

8. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 7, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the original reading unit performs deceleration reading from the

deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

9. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 2, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the deceleration start position is a position that is advanced in the reading direction from the reading start position by a length that is obtained by subtracting the required deceleration distance from the absolute length.

10. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 2, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the original reading unit performs deceleration reading from the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

11. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the specified image reading mode is specified from a plurality of predetermined modes.

12. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the plurality of predetermined modes includes a plurality of monochrome modes having different resolutions in a scanner function, a plurality of color modes having different resolutions in the scanner function, a mode corresponding to a copy function, and a plurality of modes corresponding to original image types and resolutions in a facsimile function.

13. (Currently Amended) An image reading device comprising:
an original mounting portion on which an original having an image region is placed;
an original reading unit movable in a reading direction for reading the image region,
the image region having an image region length in the reading direction;
a movement control unit controlling the original reading unit to provide an
acceleration region where the original reading unit accelerates from a halted state to a moving

velocity, a constant-velocity region where the original reading unit maintains the moving velocity, and a deceleration region where the original reading unit decelerates from the moving velocity to the halted state, the original reading unit reading the image region at least in the constant-velocity region, the original reading unit starting to decelerate at a deceleration start position that is positioned between the constant-velocity region and the deceleration region;

a region-length acquisition unit acquiring the image region length; and

a deceleration-start-position setting unit setting the deceleration start position based on the image region length acquired by the region-length acquisition ~~unit~~unit;

wherein the deceleration-start-position setting unit includes a region-length comparison unit comparing the image region length with a reference region length, thereby obtaining a comparison result; and

wherein the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to one of a position within the image region and a position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction, depending on the comparison result of the region-length comparison unit.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 14, wherein, if the region-length comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the image region length is greater than or equal to the reference region length, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region.

16. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 15, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start

position to a position that is advanced in the reading direction from the reading start position by the reference region length.

17. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 16, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the original reading unit performs deceleration reading from the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

18. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 14, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to a position that is advanced in the reading direction from the reading start position by the reference region length.

19. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 14, wherein, if the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position within the image region, the original reading unit performs deceleration reading from the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

20. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 14, wherein, if the region-length comparison unit has obtained the comparison result that the image region length is less than the reference region length, the deceleration-start-position setting unit sets the deceleration start position to the position immediately downstream of the image region in the reading direction.

21. (Original) The image reading device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the reference region length is obtained based on a maximum required deceleration distance that is

a distance required for the original reading unit to decelerate from a maximum moving velocity and reach the halted state.